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Office of the Secretariat
Committee of Regional Executives

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Comité des cadres régionaux

Canada

REGIONAL SCREENING & COORDINATING
COMMITTEE (RSCC)
WESTERN & NORTHERN REGION

1989

REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT

**REGIONAL SCREENING
AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE (RSCC)
WESTERN & NORTHERN REGION**

**1989
REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT**

Compiled and Edited by: D. Lorieau
Environmental Protection
Western & Northern Region
Conservation & Protection
Regional Office



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Western & Northern Region
Twin Atria #2, 2nd Floor
4999 - 98 Avenue
EDMONTON, Alberta
T6B 2X3

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Our file Notre référence

1165-36/R39

March 29, 1990

CORE Members

RE: 1989 EACC (RSCC) Annual Report

The Environmental Assessment Coordinating Committee (EACC) is pleased to submit to you their 1989 Annual Report.

In 1989, the EACC dealt with 381 project referrals, 13 of them major projects. Five meetings were held in Edmonton, Winnipeg, Yellowknife, Calgary and Saskatoon. One RSCC field trip was held to the Oldman River Dam site. This trip was held in conjunction with the EACC Meeting in Calgary.

Guests attending EACC meetings in 1989 were representatives from ADOE, HWC, MDOE, INAC, FEARO, Petro-Canada, ESSO, WEDO and SEPS.

The Province of Alberta regularly sends representatives to meetings held in Edmonton and Calgary, and has been active in exchanging information as required by the Canada-Alberta Agreement on Environmental Assessment which ended during this calendar year.

I hope that CORE will find this 1989 annual report acceptable.

Yours truly,

Nick Tywoniuk, Ph.D., P. Eng.
Chairman, EACC

Encl.

Canada

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PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

ALBERTA

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NW-4475	Gainer's Inc., Proposed Hog Processing Plant, Picture Butte (EP)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-619: Phase III Banff Highway Twinning Proposal; DPW; Alberta

BACKGROUND:

During the past four years, DPW has widened a 27 kilometre stretch of the Trans-Canada Highway, from Banff National Park's east gate to Sunshine Village access road. The project was essential to alleviate the severe traffic congestion on this highway. Each of the first two phases (I:0-13 km and II:13-27 km) was approved, following public reviews led by federal environmental assessment panels, subject to stringent environmental standards. Department of Public Works (DPW) is seeking Cabinet approval to proceed with Phase III Banff Highway Twinning, an additional 45 kilometres at an estimated cost of \$77.6 million over a 5 year period. An initial assessment of Phase III, from Sunshine to Lake Louise, has been completed by DPW. The success of mitigation of earlier phases contributed to a decision not to refer the Phase III to a panel review.

KEY ISSUES:

Continued high standard for environmental design, construction and monitoring.

STATUS:

DOE Minister has officially advised DPW that Phase III should have high priority. A public consultation program, coordinated by DPW and assisted by Parks Canada, was carried out in the fall of 1986; public turnout was light. Funding for Phase III construction has received some further funding (but not all), and 1990/91 will experience some new construction.

FUTURE ACTION:

Continue participation on project coordinating committees. Ensure that design and construction conforms with DOE objectives.

Prepared by: N. Tywoniuk
Phone: (403) 468-8063
Originated: October 8, 1985
Updated: December 18, 1985
Updated: February 07, 1986
Updated: July 04, 1986
Updated: January 23, 1987
Updated: July 27, 1987
Updated: October 31, 1988
Updated: March 28, 1990

Lead: RDGO
Contact: N. Tywoniuk
Phone: (403) 468-8063

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4263: Oldman River-Three Rivers Dam; Alberta; Indian Affairs

BACKGROUND:

After more than a decade of assessment and planning, Alberta Environment approved construction of a dam on the Oldman River at the Three River site near Brocket, Alberta. This site is 12 km upstream of the Peigan Indian Reserve. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) is prepared to defend a statement of claim by the Peigan Nation in the Federal Court of Canada, however, this claim is not being actively pursued. At the request of DIAND, Environment Canada reviewed the project and identified a number of potential impacts on reserve lands that could result from construction and operation of the Three Rivers Dam.

Following the Rafferty/Alameda federal court ruling, the Friends of the Oldman River (FOR) attempted to have EARP applied to this project in issuing a permit under the Navigable Water Protection Act and in carrying out enforcement responsibilities under fish habitat protection provisions of the Fisheries Act. On August 11, 1989 the Federal Court ruled against FOR. The Court of Appeal decision on this case was handed down on March 13, 1990. The Court ruled in favour of FOR, quashing the Navigable Waters Protection Act approval and ordering both the Ministers of Transport and Fisheries and Ocean to comply with the EARP Guidelines Order.

KEY ISSUES:

Crop damage from staging waterfowl, mercury contamination of fish, dust storms from reservoir, loss of swimming opportunities, riparian rights, long-term maintenance of cottonwood forests, water-shortages throughout the Oldman River basin.

STATUS:

Construction on the Oldman River dam is continuing. Discussions are being held to determine how to proceed following the March 13/90 Court ruling. It is likely that an EARP Panel will be established.

FUTURE ACTION:

If a Panel is formed an EIS will likely be required and the EACC will be required to review the EIS.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: January 20, 1988
Updated: January 2, 1990
Updated: March 27, 1990

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4433: Daishowa Canada Co. Ltd., Peace River Kraft Pulp Mill, Alberta; Western Diversification Office

BACKGROUND:

Daishowa Canada has proposed construction and operation of a new bleached kraft pulpmill on the Peace River, 16 km downstream from the town of Peace River. Annual production is expected to be in the order of 240,000 tonnes of hardwood (aspen) pulp and 82,000 tonnes of softwood pulp. Wood supply will be in the form of whole logs (hardwood) from new logging operations and chips (softwood) from existing sawmills within a 200 km radius of the town of Peace River.

KEY ISSUES:

Environment Canada has been requested to participate in the review of an EIA prepared within the Alberta Environmental Assessment process. The project has been referred to DOE under the Canada/Alberta Sub-Agreement on EIA.

Federal interests in the project include:

- a) Water Quality - The Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations under the Fisheries Act apply. An opportunity exists to promote installation of "best available treatment technology" for parameters such as BOD, TSS, toxicity, etc.
- b) Air Quality - The facility will be subject to the Clean Air Act - Wood Pulping Industry National Emission Guidelines for New Stationary Sources. There is an opportunity to promote best available technology for parameters such as particulates, SO₂ and odour.
- c) Dioxins - The process used to produce bleached kraft pulp utilizes chlorine and chlorine dioxide ClO₂ as bleaching agents. Production of dioxins has been associated with this process. Dioxins are among the most toxic organic compounds produced by man. The significance of dioxins in wastes or products from pulpmills is under close evaluation in Canada and the U.S. Any new bleached kraft mill can be expected to be subjected to close scrutiny.
- d) Downstream Water Use - Indian reserves and Wood Buffalo National Park are located downstream from the proposed pulpmill. Concerns about water quality and toxic chemicals (i.e. dioxins) could be related to these federal lands.
- e) Fisheries - Commercial, recreational and domestic fisheries exist along the waterway. Species of interest include whitefish, walleye, goldeye, etc. Concerns about the potential for tainting could be raised.
- f) Migratory Birds - Concerns could be raised about potential long-term effects of waste discharges on waterfowl (e.g. reproductive capability) or waterfowl in the Peace/Athabasca delta. If the woods operations are included in the EIS, concerns about forest management impacts on migratory birds could be raised.
- g) Forest Management - Interest is expected from the public in including the woods operations/forest management agreements in the EIS. Federal interest in this should be peripheral as long as federal funding is not involved.

- h) Federal Funding - The Western Diversification Office provided 150 K towards completion of the project definition feasibility study and federal funding in the order of \$9.5 million will be made available for project development; contingent upon environmental acceptability.

STATUS:

Technical review of the EIA and two supplementary reports was completed with the conclusion that all applicable federal regulations would be met. Environment Canada's additional interest in a cooperative environmental effects monitoring program to evaluate incremental and accumulative effects is being pursued through the consultative mechanism under the Canada-Alberta Accord. A permit to construct was issued by ADOE June 22, 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

On February 16, 1990 two separate notices of motion were filed in Federal Court in Edmonton, alleging that the Ministers of Environment, Fisheries and Oceans, Transport and Western Economic Diversification had failed to follow EARP and requesting that their Ministers be ordered to do so. The case will be heard in Federal Court on April 20, 1990. Future action will depend upon the outcome of this litigation.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: March 15, 1988
Updated: March 28, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4435-1: Commercial Trucking of Magnesite on the Kootenay Parkway; Parks; The Magnesium Company of Canada Ltd.

BACKGROUND:

The Kootenay Parkway is an important highway route between the Columbia Valley in British Columbia and Alberta. Use of the Parkway for transport of resource materials has gradually increased over the past two decades. New industrial activities in Alberta may result in significantly greater transport of ore from mines in the Columbia Valley to processing plants in Alberta. The issue is addressed in the Kootenay Park Management Plan, and a draft IEE was prepared in early 1987. A summary of the major concerns identified in the IEE was distributed to the public at public meetings.

KEY ISSUES:

Construction of a magnesite processing plant at High River will process ore mined near Kootenay National Park. The material may then be hauled through Kootenay and Banff National Parks. Although the environmental impacts of the plant were addressed in an environmental impact assessment, transport of ore to the site was not.

Increasing use of the Kootenay Parkway by commercial vehicles may detract from park visitors' opportunities to safely enjoy and appreciate Kootenay National Park. It could also result in impacts to park resources, especially wildlife mortality from vehicle collision.

Methods to reduce the impacts of commercial trucking to park resources and visitor use could have negative socioeconomic impacts to businesses and communities in the surrounding region.

STATUS:

Information collection to determine the impact of trucking to wildlife populations in Kootenay National Park is underway. Research to identify the effects of trucking to park visitors, and an examination of the socioeconomic impacts which would result from various controls on commercial truck traffic has been completed.

FUTURE ACTION:

Kootenay Parkway corridor plan is currently being prepared. Incorporated, recommendations will be provided in IEE draft. Anticipated date for public meetings is early 1990.

Prepared by: B. Beswick
Phone: (403) 292-4412
Originated: February 22, 1988
Updated: March 26, 1990

Lead: Canadian Parks
Service
Contact: B. Leeson
Phone: (403) 292-4438

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4436: Public Works Canada; Maintenance Dredging, Manitoba, Alberta, Northwest Territories

BACKGROUND:

Public Works Canada (PWC) undertakes a regular program of maintenance dredging on several major waterways in the Prairie provinces (Red River/Lake Winnipeg, Athabasca River/Clearwater River) and Northwest Territories (Hay River, Great Slave Lake, Mackenzie River). Environmental Screening to meet the requirements of the EARP Order-In-Council has been ongoing but has been ad hoc with limited attention to the technical soundness of predictions made, effectiveness of mitigative measures proposed or efficiency of repetitive screening (i.e. yearly) of the same projects. Environment Canada (DOE) and DFO suggested in 1986 and 1987 reviews undertaken for PWC (EP Lead, Regional Dredging Committee support) that PWC consider utilizing a technique employed in the province of Ontario for assessment of minor or repetitive projects; "class assessment" to improve the quality of Initial Assessment and improve efficiency for PWC and review agencies; in subsequent screening of maintenance dredging in the W&N Region. PWC agreed to this approach in late September, 1987.

KEY ISSUES:

Maintenance dredging impacts are largely site specific. Concerns may relate to: disposal of contaminated sediments, water quality, habitat degradation for fish and wildlife, incompatibility with local land uses (eg. recreation), etc. Issues will be confirmed a part of the class assessment.

STATUS:

A workshop was held in early January, 1989, to evaluate available screening procedures applicable to PWC's needs and to agree upon environmental concerns that may exist at each site in the Western & Northern Region. DOE and DFO participated in this workshop.

FUTURE ACTION:

Workshop results are expected to serve as the basis for any future Initial Assessments indicated by PWC, in dredging proposals in this Region. Further site specific input will be required as requested by PWC.

Prepared by: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: January 12, 1988
Updated: March 31, 1988
Updated: February 16, 1989
Updated: March 28, 1990

Lead: EP
Contact: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4450: Suncor Resources Group Inc., Debottlenecking Project, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

On October 6, 1987 Suncor met with the ERCB and Alberta Environment to discuss the following proposal:

- increase crude oil production and capacity by approximately 20% and 40% respectively over the existing 53,000 BPCD;
- mining will increase from 122,000 TPCD to 145,000 TPCD.

Debottlenecking will include new mining, extraction and overburden handling equipment, and upgrading and utilities facilities (coker fractionation, naphtha recovery unit, hot bitumen storage, tankage (coker furnaces).

KEY ISSUES:

Air quality -emissions (SO_2 , H_2S , NO_x , heavy metals)
 -hydrocarbons
 -odours

Reclamation

Sulphur recovery

Acid deposition

Water recycling

Water quality - surface water, groundwater

Native benefits, employment

STATUS:

Suncor submitted an EIA in August, 1988 to ADOE under the subagreement. A federal review was conducted. Comments from that review were provided to ADOE September 27, 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

Suncor submitted an EIA in August, 1988 to ADOE under the subagreement. A federal review was conducted. Comments from that review were provided to ADOE September 27, 1988.

Prepared by: F.J. Schulte,
Phone: (403) 427-6209
Originated: June 30, 1988
Updated: February 15, 1989 (F. Zaal)

Lead: EP
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4451: Solv-Ex Corporation Bitumount Commercial Oil Sands Area, Fort McMurray

BACKGROUND:

Solv-Ex proposes to mine and upgrade 9000 bpd (1440 m³/d) of bitumen into synthetic crude oil using "Aurobon Technology". Mining will be by truck and shovel operation; bitument extraction will be by solvent extraction. The proponent states that the process will eliminate long-term requirements for tailings ponds. The Capital cost is estimated at \$300 million; operations workforce about 322. The lease is immediately adjacent to the Athabasca River and Bitumount Historic Site (TTp 96, 97; R-10,11 W4M).

KEY ISSUES:

Key issues include: proximity to Athabasca River, air quality, acid deposition, water quality, groundwater protection, fisheries, wildlife, forestry, land use impacts of off-site infrastructure and services, public concerns for health and safety, native concerns (Fort Mackay) and cumulative downstream effects.

STATUS:

Inactive.

FUTURE ACTION:

Monitor project progress.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: November 4, 1988
Updated: March 1990

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4462: Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (APFI), (a subsidiary of Crestbrook Forest Industries Ltd. (CFI)) - Athabasca Pulp Mill, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

APFI has proposed construction and operation of a new bleached kraft pulp mill on the Athabasca River, 50 km downstream from the town of Athabasca. The pulp mill will be designed to produce a nominal average of 1,500 air dried tonnes per day (ADt/d) of hardwood pulp during 260 days per year, yielding an annual production of 390,000 ADt. Softwood pulp production capacity will be 1,250 ADt/d for 85 days per year, yielding an annual production of 106,250 ADt/d. During the first four years of operation, the mill will run for an average of 288 days on hardwood and 57 days on softwood for an expected annual production of 432,000 ADt of hardwood pulp and 71,250 ADt of softwood pulp. Wood supply will be from the north and east of the mill site in the Green Zone and the White Zone south and east of the plant. Capital cost for the mill is estimated to be about one billion dollars (1988). Construction could start in the spring of 1990. During construction, approximately 2,800 man years of employment would be generated on site. During operation, 400 jobs would be created at the mill with the woodlands operation generating another 600 jobs. All employment figures are approximately plus or minus 10%.

KEY ISSUES:

Chlorinated organic compounds; nutrients; dissolved oxygen; impacts on Wood Buffalo National Park; Fisheries; air quality.

STATUS:

The project was announced on December 13, 1988. An EIA was formally requested on December 22, 1988. The company retained Stanley Associates Engineering Ltd. to compile the EIA and submit the EIA report to Alberta Environment. The company's public involvement programs consists of (i) meetings with downstream communities on the Athabasca River and (ii) public meetings in area communities. A proposed table of contents for the EIA was reviewed by federal agencies under the subagreement and ensuing comments passed on to ADOE at a meeting on January 27, 1989. A review of the EIA was completed in July and the comments sent to ADOE in August, 1989. A federal-provincial review board was established in July, 1989 to conduct joint public hearings on the project; the hearings started in October, 1989 and ran until December, 1989.

FUTURE ACTION:

The Review Board's report was released on March 2, 1990. As the initiating department, DOE will coordinate a response to the report on behalf of the federal government.

Prepared by: F.J. Schulte, ADOE
Phone: (403) 427-6209
Originated: February 1, 1989
Updated: August 29, 1989 (K. Rothwell)
Updated: March 30, 1990 (K. Rothwell)

Lead: EP
Contact: Kath Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8006

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4463 Alberta Energy Company Ltd.
Bleached Chemi-thermomechanical Pulp Mill

BACKGROUND:

This is a new aspen-based bleached chemi-thermomechanical (BCTMP) mill having an ultimate capacity of 220,000 tonnes of pulp per year. The proposed mill will be constructed in two phases, with an initial annual capacity of 110,000 tonnes commencing in late 1990.

The proposed mill site is located approximately 15 km east of the Town of Slave Lake on Highway 2 between the highway and the CN railway. The Slave Lake site, selected from six potential regional sites, is guided by the location of the company's wood supply.

KEY ISSUES:

Impact on water quality of the Lesser Slave and Athabasca Rivers.
Downstream community concerns may be significant.
Fisheries and public health.
Evaluation of emerging effluent treatment technologies for Phase II including ultra-filtration, activated sludge and anaerobic treatment.

STATUS:

On February 8, 1990 the proponent responded to the three outstanding questions raised by federal reviewers. Subsequently, the proponent indicated that algal assays would be undertaken to simulate effects of nutrients in their projected effluent on primary productivity in the Lesser Slave River. If the issue of dissolved oxygen levels in the Athabasca River is resolved, there are no further federal objections to this project proceeding. At that time, a new project file is anticipated for the ultrafiltration evaluation project.

FUTURE ACTION:

Discussions will be held with the province and DFO regarding future actions to be taken and this mill, in context of the ALPAC Review Board report

Prepared by: F.J. Schulte
Phone: (403) 427-6270
Originated: February 1, 1989
Updated: March 29, 1990

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4468 OSLO Oil Sands Development, Fort McMurray, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The OSLO project is a proposed commercial oil sands development located on OSLO lease 31 about 60 km north of Fort McMurray and 25 km northeast of Fort MacKay. The project is a joint venture led by Esso Resources Canada and includes interests of Alberta Oil Sands Equity, Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd., Gulf Canada Resources Limited, Pan Canadian Petroleum Limited and Petro-Canada Inc.

The present proposal is for an oil sands mining and upgrading project to convert about 12,000 cubic metres per day of extracted bitumen into about 12,500 cubic metres of high quality synthetic crude oil.

The estimated peak construction work force is expected to be 6,000. The permanent operating staff is expected to be 2,500.

KEY ISSUE:

Air Emission Control
Water Supply
Wastewater Discharge
Tailings Panel Management
Solid Waste/Hazardous Waste Management
Groundwater Evaluation
Pit Drainage
Surface Water Diversion
Land Use/Reclamation
Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Wildlife and Habitat
Historical Resources

STATUS:

Scoping for the project EIA is ongoing through the Application Review Team (ART) Environmental Sub-Committee. Environment Canada began representation on the committee February 5, 1990. Comments on the documentation previously provided by ADOE has been collated and is being updated. It will be forwarded to OSLO for inclusion in their revisions to the impact hypotheses. An Environmental Evaluation of Alternative Headwater Diversions was submitted for review by the committee. Comments will be solicited from federal reviewers. An information meeting by OSLO is planned for mid-February to brief interested federal participants on the status of the project.

FUTURE ACTION:

Provide coordinated response to ADOE on issue scoping for OSLO's EIA.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: February 28, 1989
Updated: March 27, 1990

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4472: Operation Swiftsure, Defense Research Establishment Suffield (DRES);
Alberta; Department of National Defense

BACKGROUND:

Since World War II DRES has stored chemical warfare agents. There are currently 230 tonnes of material being stored for disposal. These materials include aged chemical warfare agents, scrap metal, empty containers and non-toxic solutions. The disposal plan proposed by DRES incorporates both chemical and thermal destruction. A Request for Proposals (RFP) for an incinerator was released in June, 1989. Environment Canada participated in the evaluation of proposals. The successful bidder, Chem-Securities Limited was announced in December, 1989.

KEY ISSUES:

Compliance with CEPA Hazardous Waste Regulations; disposal of incinerator residue; wildlife interaction; risk assessment; proper handling and storage of waste, air quality monitoring.

STATUS:

Chem-Securities is required to prepare an Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) by March 31, 1990. Environment Canada will review the EPP. Environment Canada will also participate in developing a monitoring program and reviewing the monitoring results to ensure compliance with CEPA. The incinerator is expected to be operating by late 1990 or early 1991.

Prepared by: K. Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8006
Originated: August 22, 1989
Updated: January 4, 1990

Lead: EP
Contact: K. Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8006

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4473: Mount Cline Glacier Commercial Ice Extraction

BACKGROUND:

In the fall of 1987 the Ice Age Company began extraction of ice from the Cline Glacier for sale as "ice cubes" and souvenirs in conjunction with the 1988 Winter Olympics. Following an initial period of unregulated operations, the company obtained authorization pursuant to the Water Resources Act and the Public Lands Act to extract a maximum of 10m³ of ice during the period December, 1987 to March, 1988.

To facilitate the continuation of the operation, the Ice Age Company submitted additional applications in the fall of 1988 (Public Lands Act) and spring of 1989 (Water Resources Act). A Miscellaneous Permit under the Public Lands Act was granted on May 2, 1989 subject to stringent conditions restricting the scale of the operation, specifying the extraction season and delimiting waste management practices and access methods. The Water Resources application was tabled to permit public advertisement and review.

As a result of concerns raised by several conservationist groups, individuals, and an outfitter working in the area the Minister of Alberta Environment advised the company on July 25, 1989 that an Environmental Impact Assessment will be required for the proposed continuation of the operation. The EIA must include an extensive public consultation program which provides adequate opportunity for public input and addresses public concerns.

KEY ISSUES:

Biophysical impacts on watershed quantity/quality and on wildlife (helicopter access); Environmental technology (waste and material management); Public health and worker/public safety; Existing and future land use conflicts; Water resource licensing criteria; Baseline data requirements.

STATUS:

The proponent has prepared an environmental impact assessment report and contact individuals and groups who objected to the project, to discuss their concerns and answer their questions. An EIA deficiency review report was sent to the proponents in October, 1989. Once this is addressed in a manner acceptable to ADOE, public information sessions are to be carried out.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review company response to the deficiency report and advise ADOE.

Prepared by: R. George, ADOE & F. Zaal (ADO)

Phone: (403) 468-8004

Originated: August 15, 1989

Updated: September, 1989

Updated: March 20, 1990

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4475: Gainer's Inc., Proposed Hog Processing Plant, Picture Butte, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The proposed \$20 million hog slaughtering and cutting facility will be designed to process up to 30,000 hogs per week. Due to an insufficiency in hog supply, initially the plant will operate at 15,000 head per week with slaughter increase in steps to 30,000 head weekly over a period of 4 to 5 years.

The company's preferred method of wastewater treatment and disposal is to utilize an upgraded Town of Picture Butte sewage treatment facility before discharge to the Oldman River. Water supply (ultimately 330,000 gal/day) will be obtained by either withdrawal directly from the Oldman River or through the works of the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District.

KEY ISSUES:

Protection of the water quality and fisheries of the Oldman River; Treatment and disposal of wastewater from the hog slaughter process (analysis of alternative options including discharge to Oldman River, evaporation and irrigation, and wetlands development); Water supply requirements; Solid wastes disposal; Potential concerns of downstream communities.

STATUS:

Representatives of Gainers Inc. and the Town of Picture Butte presented the project to Alberta Environment on November 4, 1988. The project was screened and the company was formally advised of the EIA requirement on February 21, 1989. This project was dropped due to financial difficulties at Gainer's resulting in the provincial government taking over existing operations. There are no immediate plans to revise the proposal.

FUTURE ACTION:

None. File should be closed.

Prepared by: F.J. Schulte, Alberta Environment
Phone: (403) 427-6270
Originated: February 27, 1989
Updated: March 30, 1990 (W. Fenton)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

SASKATCHEWAN

NW-917	Midwest Mine (EP)
NW-958	Collins Bay, Eagle Point Ore Deposits (EP)
NW-970	Dominique-Janine Ore Deposit; Amok Ltd. (EP)
NW-971	McClellan Lake Ore Deposit (EP)
NW-7094	Beaverlodge Mine Decommissioning (EP)
NW-7146	Cigar Lake Test Mine (EP)
NW-7156-1	Rafferty and Alameda Dams (IWD)
NW-7160	Husky Oil Upgrader (EP)
NW-7161	Qu'Appelle River Conveyance Project (IWD)
NW-7268	Island Falls Dam (IWD)
NW-7269	Millar Western Pulp Ltd., Meadow Lake CTMP Pulpmill (EP)
NW-7270	Nortek Forest Products Corporation; CTMP Pulpmill (EP)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-917: Midwest Mine; Denison Mines Limited; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The Midwest uranium deposit, briefly referred to as the Saskatchewan North Ore deposit by its current owners, was discovered in 1978. Drilling has substantiated reserves of more than 25 million kg of uranium grading about 1.25% U_3O_8 . The company has completed test mining and is currently assessing the economic feasibility of the project.

KEY ISSUE:

Release of radionuclides to the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

STATUS:

During 1988 the Regional Mining Committee reviewed an EIS for test mining. The proposal made reference to the earlier three volume Environmental Impact Statement, EIS Summary and eleven Supporting Documents of the previous operator, Canada Wide Mines Ltd., which were reviewed in 1982. Regulatory approvals were received in 1988 and test mining was completed in October, 1989. The company has recently submitted a proposal for full scale mining. Guidelines for the preparation of an EIS are currently being prepared by Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review draft and final Environmental Impact Statements during 1990 on full scale mining and advise the Atomic Energy Control Board and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462
Originated: November 17, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989
Updated: November 6, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-958: Collins Bay - Eagle Point Mines; CAMECO
(formerly Eldorado Resources Limited) Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

CAMECO, a Canadian Mining and Energy Corporation, through its Rabbit Lake Operation, operates the Rabbit Lake/Collins Bay uranium mine and mill facilities near Woolaston Lake in northern Saskatchewan. The original Rabbit Lake mine operated from 1975 until 1984. Currently the Rabbit Lake mill is processing ore from the Collins Bay B-zone deposit. However, this deposit will be mined out by 1991. Three neighbouring uranium deposits have been approved for future mining. Decommissioning studies of the Rabbit Lake mine and tailings are underway.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radioactive elements and heavy metals. All three future mines are partially under the waters of Collins Bay and there could be considerable public concern. The mined-out Rabbit Lake pit is being used to dispose of tailings from the B-zone mine and future mines.

STATUS:

CAMECO is seeking approval from the Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB) and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety (SEPS) to produce uranium from two small deposits - the Collins Bay A-zone and D-zone. These small mines would be mined in less than two years. The company has also received permission for full scale mining at Eagle Point, a larger deposit which would be mined into the next century, pending the results of further underground exploration and test mining. The final Environmental Impact Statement was reviewed by the Regional Mining Committee. Approval to proceed was granted early in 1988. Development of the Eagle Point mine is proceeding, but the company no longer plans to mine the A and D zones.

FUTURE ACTION:

EP will involve the Regional Mining Committee as required in any 1990 review of a revised proposal for full scale mining at Eagle Point. There could also be a separate EIA of the Rabbit Lake pit disposal system.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462
Originated: January 16, 1987
Updated: November 17, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989
Updated: November 6, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-970: Dominique-Janine Ore Deposit; Amok Ltd.; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Amok Ltd. operates, on behalf of Cluff Mining, uranium mining and milling facilities at Cluff Lake in northwestern Saskatchewan. The Cluff Lake Operations have been ongoing since 1980, with the mining of the D and Claude Pits, O-P Underground Orebody, and the Dominique-Peter Underground Orebody. Cluff Mining's latest open pit operation, involving the Claude Orebody, was completed in August 1989. The D-pit has been closed but underground mining is continuing. Another uranium deposit, the Dominique-Janine Orebody, has been proposed for future development. The company proposes to construct a dam across Cluff Lake, drain the northern part of the lake and divert inflowing streams around the lake.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radionuclides and heavy metals to the terrestrial and aquatic environments. Disruptions in aquatic habitat due to draining the north end of Cluff Lake. Control of water quality in the diversion ditch.

STATUS:

Cluff Mining has submitted preliminary proposals for future open-pit mining of the Dominique-Janine deposit. Preliminary estimates are that the orebody contains 5.9 million kg of uranium distributed in three zones. Only the two more northerly zones will be mined initially. These contain 2.2 million kg of uranium at an average grade of 0.35%. Approval was given to mine the first zone gone as part of an earlier EIA. The third zone extends under Cluff Lake and could be of considerable environmental concern.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review draft and final Environmental Impact Statements during 1990-1991 and advise the Atomic Energy Control Board and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462
Originated: February 20, 1989
Updated: November 6, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-971: McClean Lake Ore Deposit; Minatco Ltd.; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Discovery of this uranium deposit in 1978 was followed by five years of baseline environmental monitoring from 1979 to 1983. Each of the five separate reports was individually reviewed by the Regional Mining Committee. Preliminary estimates indicate 6 million kg of ore grading 1.2% U_3O_8 . The company received comments from the regulatory agencies during 1988 on a proposed minewater treatment scheme.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radionuclides to the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

STATUS:

The company plans to secure a milling contract or design its own small mill, and then to proceed with an Environmental Impact Statement for full scale mining. Uncertainties with respect to milling could continue to delay the project. Test mining is not anticipated, but the development of this deposit should follow, rather than proceed, that of the Midwest deposit.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review draft and final Environmental Impact Statements during 1990-1991, if and as they come to be prepared, and advise the Atomic Energy Control Board and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462
Originated: November 17, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989
Updated: November 6, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7094: Beaverlodge Mine Decommissioning; CAMECO (formerly Eldorado Resources Limited); Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

In December, 1981, Eldorado Resources Limited announced the closure of its mine near Uranium City, Saskatchewan. In June, 1982, Eldorado submitted a reclamation plan to the regulatory agencies. The approach to decommissioning has been to protect the surrounding natural environment by employing good engineering practices to ensure long-term stability of the site.

KEY ISSUES:

The reclamation of the grounds and subsequent transfer of ownership to the province, is dependent on runoff meeting model predictions of Surface Water Quality Objectives. Should compliance with the modelling predictions not be achieved, ownership would remain with CAMECO. The regulatory agencies are also concerned about the stability of rock covers; including permafrost action, piping, settlement, rates and effects of revegetation, and shoreline erosion. The long-term integrity of three small dams is under surveillance.

STATUS

The reclamation was completed in July, 1985, and joint annual inspections have since been conducted by the regulatory agencies. The final points of control will be monitored for a period of five to eight years. If the monitoring shows sufficient compliance with Saskatchewan Surface Water Quality Objectives, and if annual inspections indicate the effective long-term containment of the tailings, ownership of the site will be transferred to the province. Two of the three small dams were upgraded in 1987 and areas of excessive settlement have been repaired.

The company could submit a report in 1990 requesting an end to their environmental monitoring and for return of the land to the province.

FUTURE ACTION:

EP and AECB will make annual inspections of the site and sample the runoff, as deemed necessary, to confirm results provided by the company and the province. EP will involve the Regional Mining Committee as required.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Originated: October 1, 1985
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 12, 1986
Updated: January 16, 1987
Updated: November 17, 1987 (D. Lawson)
Updated: January 19, 1989 (D. Lawson)
Updated: November 6, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7146: Cigar Lake Test Mine; Cigar Lake Mining Development Corporation;
Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

This project was previously called Waterbury Lake, SERU, and COGEMA. The uranium deposit, which is the richest found to date in Saskatchewan, averages 14 percent uranium, with proven reserves of 130 million kilograms; inferred reserves are 45 million kilograms, at a lower grade of 4 percent. The Cigar Lake Mining Corporation was formed to manage the development of a mine and to ensure that provincial and federal requirements are met. If developed, this will be the largest uranium mine in the world.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential large scale environmental impacts, including release of radioactive elements, terrain disturbances and disruption of fish and wildlife resources.

STATUS:

During 1987 the Regional Mining Committee reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement for a test mine. Approval to proceed was received from the Atomic Energy Control Board and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety. Test mining commenced early in 1988. Cigar Lake Mining Development Corporation has implimented an environmental monitoring program for the test mine in consultation with the regulatory agencies. Test mining is scheduled for completion by mid 1991.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review an Environmental Impact Statement for possible full scale mining which could be received in 1991.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Originated: October 1, 1985
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 12, 1986
Updated: January 16, 1987
Updated: November 17, 1987
Updated: November 6, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7156-L Rafferty and Alameda Dams; Souris Basin Development Authority; Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

BACKGROUND:

This project is to construct two dams in the Souris River basin in Saskatchewan, Rafferty dam on the Souris River 6 km northwest of Estevan and Alameda dam 4 km northwest of Oxbow. Both dams will be used for flood protection, recreation, and irrigation. The Rafferty Dam will also provide the cooling water for the 300MW power plant at Shand. American funding (\$41,100,000 US) has been secured for this project to alleviate flood damage in North Dakota.

KEY ISSUES:

The Souris River is an international river; federal obligations exist pursuant to the International River Improvements Act (IRIA), the Boundary Water Treaty, the Navigable Waters Protection Act, and the Fisheries Act. The federal issues of prime interest are water quality, waterfowl mitigation and public safety.

STATUS:

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Rafferty and Alameda dams was completed in 1987 and was received by the Government of Canada. Comments were forwarded to Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

On June 17, 1988 an IRIA licence was granted by the Minister of the Environment. On April 10, 1989 the Federal Court ruled in favor of the Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF), quashing the IRIA licence and ordering compliance with the EARP Guidelines Order in considering application for a licence under the IRIA for the project. Environment Canada undertook an IEE and concluded significant impacts could be mitigated and re-issued an IRIA licence with 22 clauses to ensure mitigation. On December 29, 1989, the Federal Court again ruled in favour of CWF and ordered an EARP panel review the significant impacts which were identified in the IEE.

FUTURE ACTION:

FEARO will likely strike a Panel to review the project. Environment Canada will probably be called upon by the Panel to provide information on project impacts.

Prepared by: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: September 1985 (J. Harrison, EP)
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 14, 1986
Updated: July 9, 1986
Updated: November 5, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: November 20, 1987
PROJECT CLOSED: June 21, 1988
Updated: January 2, 1990

Lead: IWD
Contact: R.A. Halliday
Phone: (306) 780-5319

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7160: Husky Oil Upgrader; EM&R; Saskatchewan/Alberta

BACKGROUND:

This project involves the construction of a 54,000 barrel-per-day upgrader plant three kilometres southeast of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan, and production facilities and ancillary structures in both Alberta and Saskatchewan. The estimated capital cost is \$1.4 billion and the estimated annual operating cost is \$95 million. Construction of the facility is under way.

As federal loan guarantees are required from Energy, Mines and Resources to finance the project, they are the federal initiator.

The Federal Government agreed to work within the environmental assessment framework of the Saskatchewan Provincial Government.

KEY ISSUES:

Conditions of the Federal Environmental Assessment Review process must be met and this is being accommodated partially within the provincial process. This eliminated the need for two separate formal environmental impact reviews plus allowed Energy, Mines and Resources to meet its obligations under the Environmental Assessment and Review Process.

STATUS:

Environment Canada reviewed the proposed EIS guidelines in the fall of 1984, and in October, 1984, provided pertinent advice to both the Saskatchewan government and to the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources (initiator). Environment Canada also reviewed the Husky Oil Ltd. "Baseline Data Report", and in December, 1984, provided advice to Saskatchewan on dispersion modelling, climate, air and water quality, limnology and wildlife.

Environment Canada completed its review of the impact statement in May, 1985, with federal concerns addressed by the proponent. Ministerial approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment was given in October, 1985. The upgrader is under construction.

FUTURE ACTION:

Significant changes in the EIS are proposed by Husky for the management of liquid and solid wastes. Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety will determine if an EIS is required to address these changes. In the meantime, EP will remind EM&R of its EARP responsibilities and offer to review these project changes for environment concerns.

Prepared by: John Witteman
Phone: (306) 780-6464
Originated: October 1, 1985
Updated: December 10, 1985
Updated: February 12, 1986
Updated: July 15, 1986
Updated: August 19, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: John Harrison
Phone: (306) 780-6464

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7161: Qu'Appelle River Conveyance Project; Saskatchewan Water Corporation;
Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Under a 5-year Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement, a program was initiated in 1984 to increase the bank full conveyance capacity of the Qu'Appelle River to 14.16 m³/s, primarily for the reach between Craven and Pasqua Lake. Total cost of the project is 4.75 million. Work was not completed under the original 5-year agreement and the agreement was extended for three years. When complete, the project will greatly improve the operational versatility of the basin water resources and provide some flood relief.

KEY ISSUES:

Impact of the project on fish populations. Increased sediment transport prior to re-establishment of vegative cover could also have negative impact on aquatic resources.

STATUS:

The Qu'Appelle conveyance project is proceeding with an estimated \$550,000 still to be spent for fisheries mitigation. Conveyance work upstream of Highway 6 is still required but is being delayed over a dispute with irrigators. Sask Water is considering installing irrigation wiers before continuing with the conveyance work.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE, DIAND, and DFO will continue to monitor the project and provide advice as required.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6025
Originated: February 03, 1986
Updated: July 08, 1986
Updated: November 13, 1987
Updated: January 2, 1990

Lead: IWD
Contact: L.H. Wiens
Phone: (306) 780-5329

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7268: Island Falls Dam, SaskPower, Churchill River, Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The dam and generating station at Island Falls on the Churchill River was completed in 1931. The existing Dam A, one of eight dams, is a concrete spillway which discharges flows that are in excess of those required by the generating station. SaskPower has proposed to replace the aging Dam A. The new Dam A will have a larger discharge capacity and will include a substructure for two additional turbine units with an installed capacity substructure with an installed capacity of 50 MW each. The construction of the new dam would flood approximately 34 hectares of additional land between the old and the new dams. The cost of the new project is \$40 million.

Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety has granted the project and environmental exemption because there will be no change in the manner of operation of the reservoir levels or the discharges from the Island Falls Generating Station.

KEY ISSUES:

The Mathias Columb Native Band have asked the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs to support their compensation claims related to construction of the original project. The Bands feel that there were significant federal responsibilities for the impacts caused by the Island Falls Dam on the Churchill River and the Whitesand Dam on the Reindeer River.

The Indian Bands have asked that any future operation of the Island Falls Generating Station should attempt to minimize impacts to the following:

- water overflowing the Churchill River ice in the winter
- loss of fur bearing animals by changes in the water levels
- paid changes in water levels downstream of the Station
- black sludge in the water
- loss of fish production
- loss of docks and equipment

STATUS:

The Mathias Columb Native Band is considering legal action against DIAND claiming a need for an EARP review,

FUTURE ACTION:

Environment Canada should support DIAND with technical information on the original project and replacement of Dam A. IWD will continue to track project and advise RSCC.

Prepared by: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: January 2, 1990

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7269: Millar Western Pulp Ltd.; Meadow Lake CTMP Pulp Mill; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Millar Western has proposed the construction of a pulp mill 9.5 km east of the town of Meadow Lake. The mill will produce bleached pulp, using nonchlorine bleaching agents. The mill will produce 240,000 tonnes of aspen pulp per year. Wood will be obtained from timber supply areas which NorSask Forest Products Inc. has the cutting rights to. NorSask is partly owned by Millar Western Industries Ltd. which is the parent company of Millar Western Pulp Ltd.

KEY ISSUES:

The mill is to be sited on a river system which offers very little dilution capacity; natural flow in the proposed receiving river (Meadow River) during the winter is sometimes non-existent. For this reason a sophisticated wastewater treatment system has been proposed. Nevertheless, the discharge of treated effluent into the Meadow River, as proposed in the EIS, will result in exceedances of the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines.

Other major concerns include aquatic impacts, the sustainability of the wood harvesting, environmental impacts associated with the harvesting operation, and Indian Reserves possibly affected by the effluent discharge.

STATUS:

A federal technical review of the EIS, completed in October, 1989, resulted in the recommendation to the province that the EIS was unacceptable and that the EIS should be rewritten to address the major deficiencies.

FUTURE ACTION:

Respond to provincial requests to review additional information as required.

Prepared by: J. Harrison
Phone: (306) 780-6465
Originated: October 20, 1989

Lead: EP (SDO)
Contact: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6465

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7270: Nortek Forest Products Corporation; CTMP Pulp Mill; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Nortek has proposed the construction of a pulp mill at Nipawin, Saskatchewan. The mill will produce bleached pulp, using nonchlorine bleaching agents. Annual production capacity will be 100,000 tonnes of pulp. Wood supplies (80% hardwoods) will be obtained from timber supply areas which the company plans to negotiate the rights to.

KEY ISSUES:

The discharge of treated effluent into the Saskatchewan river will result in further a decrease of dissolved oxygen levels which are often below the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines.

Other major concerns include aquatic impacts, particularly the sports fisheries in Tobin Lake, the sustainability of the wood supplies, and environmental impacts associated with the harvesting operation.

The introduction of river water in the wastewater treatment system for cooling is contrary to conventional practices (e.g. cooling towers) since dilution of the wastes will occur. The use of cooling water in this fashion is not addressed in the Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations of the Fisheries Act.

STATUS:

A federal technical review of the EIS, completed in October 1989, resulted in recommendations to the province for additional information. SEPS comments to Nortek on November 8, 1989.

FUTURE ACTION:

Respond to provincial requests to review additional information as required.

Prepared by: J. Harrison
Phone: (306) 780-6465
Originated: October 20, 1989
Updated: March 27, 1990

Lead: EP (SDO)
Contact: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6465

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

MANITOBA

NW-2568	Manitoba Hydro, Limestone Hydro Project (IWD)
NW-2597	Pasquia Polder III (CWS)
NW-2764	Conawapa Dam; Manitoba Hydro Project (IWD)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2568: Limestone Hydro Project; Manitoba Hydro, Nelson River; Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

Construction of the Manitoba Hydro Development Project at Upper Limestone Rapids, lower Nelson River, Manitoba (known as "Limestone Project") resumed April, 1985, two years ahead of original schedule. The project is located 25 km downstream of the Long Spruce Generating Station and will be a "run-of-the-river" operation. The powerhouse coffer dam was built during 1976 to 1978. Work was postponed thereafter, because of an unfavorable economic environment. Construction activities were renewed in 1985 after 42% of Limestone's output (500 megawatts) was purchased by the Northern States Power Co. At an estimated cost of \$3.2 billion, the five to eight year development is reportedly the largest single construction project in North America. Power production will start in 1990 at 500 megawatts and will increase to 1280 megawatts by 1993. Direct employment peaked at 1,800 in 1987.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential impact on populations of endemic brook trout and sturgeon in the Limestone forebay, Nelson River, and tributaries. The Project had previously received environmental approval in the 1970's.

STATUS:

Manitoba Hydro hired an Environmental Inspector who lives on-site and ensures effective prevention of environmental impacts as construction progresses. Long-term monitoring of environmental impacts of this project was planned. Federal (DOE/DFO) and Provincial Departments and Agencies reviewed the Limestone Generating Station Environmental Impact Study and found it to be acceptable. The mechanism for continued federal-provincial review and advice is through the Limestone Environmental Impact Liaison Committee.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE, DFO and DIAND continue to monitor the project and to provide advice to the Limestone Environmental Impact Liaison Committee as required.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6025
Originated: August 22, 1985
Updated: December 9, 1985
Updated: January 23, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: March 15, 1988 (no change)
Updated: January 2, 1990 (no change)

Lead: IWD
Contact: R. Halliday
Phone: (306) 780-5319

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2597: Pasquia Polder III; Manitoba Water Resources Branch, Department of Natural Resources and Agriculture Canada (PFRA)

BACKGROUND:

The Water Resources Branch of the Manitoba Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), intends to undertake drainage of Pasquia Lake, near The Pas, Manitoba, and develop the area for agricultural use. Federal Government support funding has been designated for this project through the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Agency (PFRA) although no funding was committed at the time of update.

The total area involved in the proposed Polder III development is 88 square miles. The Pasquia Lake area is 36 square miles. Since approximately 1960, considerable drainage has been undertaken in immediately adjacent areas. Drainage ditches, dykes and pumping equipment have undergone continued maintenance and upgrading. Pasquia Polder III, in part, represents a continuation and expansion of marsh and shallow-lake drainage in the area. Cumulative environmental impacts of the long term development have not been studied.

In the summer of 1984, the Water Resources Branch submitted a report entitled "Summary Report on Proposed Reclamation of Polder III Pasquia Land Settlement Project", to the Manitoba Environmental Assessment and Review Agency (MEARA). Following review by provincial agencies and invited federal agencies, the province concluded that the project would "not create environmental disruption of a magnitude to warrant an environmental assessment". However, it also noted that federal agencies had reservations about the proposal. The federal agencies involved in the review (EP, DFO, CWS and Agriculture Canada) questioned the economic justification for the project and identified concerns over water quality, wildlife habitat loss and mitigation, and crop depredation by waterfowl.

In addition to providing input into the provincial review, EP (MDO) advised PFRA that, because of the proposed expenditure of federal funds, an environmental review should be conducted according to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process Guidelines Order. Subsequently, in September 1986, PFRA distributed a report entitled "An Initial Environmental Assessment of the Pasquia Polder III Proposal, September, 1986". This report was reviewed by DFO, EP, IWD and CWS and detailed comments on the report were provided with a covering memo from G.R. Kerr (Regional Director, CWS, W&N Region) to G.H. MacKay (Director, Manitoba Affairs, PFRA) which highlighted the federal concerns. Mr. MacKay acknowledged receipt of the memo and noted the concerns in a letter dated December 22, 1986.

On November 19, 1986, a meeting was held to discuss the concerns of The Pas Indian Band. Represented at the meeting were MDNR (N. Carter, Deputy Minister (MDNR)); Special Forebay Committee; Manitoba Resource Development Impacts Office (MRDIO, INAC); The Pas Band and H. MacKay (PFRA). The Pas Band then hired a consultant (B. Sopuck) to set out proposed measures to compensate for environmental and traditional lifestyle losses. CWS met with the consultant to provide baseline data and advice.

The consultant's report, entitled "The Effects of the Pasquia Polder III Proposal on Wildlife and Recommendations for Mitigation" was completed on January 31, 1987. On April 9, 1987, a meeting was held in The Pas to discuss the findings in the report. Attending the meeting were D. Stewart and B. Clarkson (MDNR), the Chief and councillors of The Pas Band, H. MacKay (PFRA), representatives of MRDIO, P. Boothroyd (CWS), R. Sopuck and M. Kaufman (the Band's lawyer).

In a letter dated April 29, 1987, D. Stewart offered what MDNR considered to be suitable mitigation. The Pas Band did not fully accept this offer and another meeting was held at The Pas on July 3, 1987, to resolve disagreements. Discussions at this meeting resulted in a letter from Chief O. Lathlin to D. Stewart, dated July 27, 1987, in which he laid out what The Pas Band was ready to accept as mitigation. At the time of this report, no response from D. Stewart was available.

KEY ISSUES:

Main concerns relate to the destruction of wildlife habitat, which has been occurring in The Pasquia Lake area on an incremental basis for approximately 35 years. Associated concerns are mitigation of habitat loss, crop depredation and contamination of surface and ground water.

STATUS:

The Pas Band is waiting for a response from MDNR to their proposed mitigation package. PFRA is waiting for an agreement to be reached between the Province and The Pas Band on mitigation before resuming active involvement in the project.

Recent communication with MDNR revealed that implementation of the project is uncertain. Local farmers do not like the revised project plans which include operation of Big Lake at elevations higher than what they are accustomed to; they claim that raised Big Lake levels would prevent them from farming certain areas presently being farmed. In addition, while PFRA still has funds allocated for the project in their MYOP, it is possible that these funds could be reallocated to a different project under the Agri-Food Development Subsidiary Agreement.

FUTURE ACTION:

CWS is continuing monitoring progress/new developments and will offer further advice/input if required. While the project is presently inactive, it is recommended that it be kept on the books until it is either reactivated or terminated.

Prepared by: D.H. Bergman (EP)/
P. Boothroyd (CWS)
Originated: July 25, 1986
Updated: January 26, 1987
Updated: August 11, 1987
Updated: April 5, 1988

Lead: CWS
Contact: P. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2764: Conawapa Dam; Manitoba Hydro.

BACKGROUND:

On December 7, 1989, the Province of Manitoba concluded a power sale agreement with Ontario. This sales agreement has led Manitoba Hydro to proceed with the construction of the 1400 MW Conawapa Hydro Dam on the Nelson River. The dam will be located 27 km downstream of the Limestone project and will be a "run-of-the-river" operation. Recent activities include development of an access road, site evaluation and environmental studies associated with possible project impacts. Manitoba Hydro hopes to begin construction work on the dam in 1991 and begin producing power in 1999. The estimated cost of the project is \$5.5 billion.

KEY ISSUES:

Environmental impacts; potential impact on populations of endemic brook trout and sturgeon in the Nelson River and tributaries.

STATUS:

Manitoba Hydro has produced an Action Plan for the development of an Environment Impact Assessment and has been conducting baseline studies for a number of years. Federal (DOE/DFO) and Provincial Departments and Agencies reviewed the Action Plan through the Lower Nelson Technical Advisory Committee and found it to be acceptable. It is anticipated that the following completion of the EIA public hearings will be held through the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE and DFO will continue to monitor the project through the Lower Nelson Technical Advisory Committee and provide advice as required.

Prepared by: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: January 24, 1990

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

N.W.T.

NW-4441	Northern Diseased Bison, Wood Buffalo National Park (CPS)
NW-6330	Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd. (Kiggavik) (EP)
NW-10418	Thor Lake Beryllium/Rare Earths Mine (EP)
NW-10584	North Warning System (EP)
NW-10821	DND Low Level Flights (EP)
NW-11856	Nanisivik Northern Training Centre (EP)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4441: Northern Diseased Bison, Wood Buffalo National Park and surrounding area of Alberta and NWT.

BACKGROUND:

Bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis exist in a significant percentage of approximately 4,300 head of hybrid Wood-Plains Bison inhabiting Wood Buffalo National Park and adjacent areas.

KEY ISSUES:

The free-roaming hybrid bison in and around Wood Buffalo National Park are infected with the reportable diseases of tuberculosis and brucellosis and, as a result, may spread these diseases to livestock, other wildlife including the endangered wood bison, and man.

Hybrid bison may interbreed with the wood bison of the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary (MBS) or other free-roaming wood bison herds that may be established in the area, causing genetic contamination of the threatened wood bison.

The Panel review is to consider options and make recommendations.

STATUS:

- A five member FEARO Panel was announced by the Minister on February 7th, 1989.
- FEARO distributed Newsletter #1 on February 17th, 1989, Newsletter #2, late March and Newsletter #3, April 24th.
- A series of scoping meetings were held by the Panel in several northern communities between April 12th and May 10th, and in Edmonton May 11th, and 12th. The purpose of these meetings was to identify and scope the issues and concerns and to identify information gaps. Questions, briefs or position statements were not invited from any group or agency.
- Panel is meeting the week of June 19th - expect to hear from technical advisory committee to advise panel and to identify for agencies additional information requirements.

FUTURE ACTION:

Participate in Panel hearings (held in January 1990) and follow-up to Panel report (expected by May 1990).

Prepared by: R.D. Wickstrom/D. Kerfoot
Phone: (204) 983-3113
Originated: August 8, 1989
Updated: November 28, 1989
Updated: January 17, 1989
Updated: June 15, 1989
Updated: March 30, 1990 (W. Fenton)

Lead: CPS
Contact: R.D. Wickstrom/
D. Kerfoot

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-6330: Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd., Kiggavik (Lone Gull) Uranium Mine

BACKGROUND:

Urangesellschaft has recently revived its Lone Gull uranium mine project in the Keewatin under a new name - "Kiggavik". The project involves open pit mining on two deposits (300,000 tonnes per year) with an average production of 1,600 tonnes per year U_3O_8 . The ore grades are estimated at 0.5% on average (max. 1%). Milling and extraction will be done on site. Effluent will be treated in batches and held until it meets standards. Effluent meeting the standards proposed by Urangesellschaft will result in alterations to downstream water bodies. Feasibility studies are planned for 1988 with production slated to begin in 1993.

KEY ISSUES:

Waste management; release of radionuclides and trace metals; acidification of downstream lakes which are poorly buffered; possible need to write off lakes with respect to fish; transportation of supplies, including large quantities of fuel, on winter roads; dredging and construction of a marine terminal; local people are very interested in possible employment but want the environment protected; Tungavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN) has strong concerns over the possibility of land claims being compromised, and over uranium mining on principle.

STATUS:

UG has submitted a final Project Description/Facility Report, and Environmental Assessment/Safety Report, and twelve supporting documents to the Kiggavik EA Panel. The Panel in turn has distributed these documents to agencies and public groups for review; however, the review period for these documents has not been announced by the Panel pending receipt of an Executive Summary. Conversations with the Panel Secretariat suggest that the formal 45-day review period will commence on January 29, with final submissions due to the Panel on March 19. Copies of relevant documents have already been distributed to technical reviewers for comments. A first draft of the DOE submission will be prepared by T. Sackmann by mid-February 1990.

FUTURE ACTION:

A DOE review of the submitted documents and compilation of comments into a Panel submission, preparation of briefing notes, and preparation of the DOE spokesperson's opening remarks to the Panel.

Prepared by: G.A. Packman
Phone: (403) 873-3456
Originated: April 12, 1988
Updated: July 21, 1988 (W. Fenton)
Updated: January 22, 1990

Lead: EP/NWT
Contact: T. Sackmann
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10418 Thor Lake Beryllium/Rare Earths Mine; DIAND; Highwood Resources Ltd.
Hecla Mining

BACKGROUND:

Highwood Resources Ltd. has proposed development of a beryllium/rare earths mine at Thor Lake, NWT; approximately 100 km southeast of Yellowknife, just north of the Hearne Channel of Great Slave Lake. Mine development is at an advanced stage of exploration. Bulk sampling to confirm ore metallurgy was ongoing during 1985, 1986 and 1987. A winter access road from Great Slave Lake to this site was under construction in 1986 and issued in 1987.

KEY ISSUES:

Beryllium and rare earths deposits are somewhat unique. Impacts from development of this deposit are uncertain given the lack of experience in the W&N Region with minerals of this type. Concerns may exist because of:

- (a) uncertainty over milling and tailings treatment technology
- (b) limited information on the environmental toxicology of beryllium, rare earths and related compounds
- (c) possible extension of a winter road into this area from the Terra Mines Ltd., Bullmoose Lake Gold project or along Great Slave Lake from Yellowknife. Contingency planning and spill prevention/response for fuel and hazardous material transport may become an issue.

Also, the project may prove to be controversial due to the local perception that beryllium is only used by the nuclear industry (beryllium is used in reactor shields and protective shields in nuclear weapons; it is also used in computer wiring, "high tech" steel alloys and other communications and biomedical research purposes).

STATUS:

A DOE review of the Thor Lake Project Description was completed in November, 1988. The review identified information deficiencies regarding the potential effects of airborne transport of beryllium and/or rare earths dust, treatments, long-term stabilization of tailings, objectives and rationale for environmental monitoring, and toxicity of soluble beryllium to northern aquatic organisms.

In light of these information deficiencies, DOE has recommended to DIAND that an Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) be prepared. Guidelines for preparation of an IEE were issued to the proponent in 1985; to date, however, Highwood Resources-Hecla Mining have not responded to DIAND's request.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review comments regarding the Project Description and the DOE recommendation for preparation of an IEE will be provided to DIAND via the Regional Environmental Review Committee. Once submitted, EP-NWT District Office will coordinate the DOE review of the IEE.

Prepared by: Warren Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: January 21, 1986
Updated: November 15, 1988

Lead: EP - NWT
Contact: T. Sackmann
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10584: North Warning System; DIAND; DND

BACKGROUND

In cooperation with the U.S. Air Force, the Department of National Defence (DND) is replacing the outdated Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line with the North Warning System. The North Warning System will include the construction of 11 Long Range Radar (LRR) sites, 5 Logistics Support Sites (LSS), 36 Short Range Radar (SRR) Sites and an undertermined number of Forward Operating Sites. The sites will be constructed across the North, from Alaska to the Maritimes, over the next 6 years.

KEY ISSUES:

Environmental issues are basically site specific and include sensitive wildlife and habitat, fuel storage and handling, and domestic, solid and hazardous waste management.

STATUS:

The IEE is being prepared in three parts. The first deals with the LRR sites and the short range radar training and development site. The second part deals with the SRR and LSS sites and the third will address the forward operating sites. A draft of Volume I was submitted to DOE for review in June, 1987. The DOE review of the draft identified issues such as the lack of environmental protection plans, mitigation measures and details about abandonment for LRR sites. The final version of Volume I was received in early December, 1987. A coordinated review was completed in January, 1988. Volumes 2 and 3 have not yet been received and are expected before the end of FY 88/89.

Tenders for construction of individual Short Range Radar sites have been issued and construction of the majority of sites is underway or completed. In November, initial public hearings (involving Canadian Parks Service, DND and Inuvialuit facilities at Stokes Point and Komakuk Beach, Yukon). An EP submission to those hearings was prepared by the Whitehorse office. Since that time, no further action on those sites has been taken pending a Memorandum of Understanding between the three principal parties identified above.

EP Yellowknife and Inuvik offices will continue to provide advice to EP Whitehorse and CPS as required.

FUTURE ACTION:

A coordinated review of each of the volumes will be undertaken and comments/advice will be provided to DND and DIAND (the initiators).

Prepared by: K. Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8016
Originated: April 29, 1987
Updated: July 22, 1987
Updated: January 07, 1988
Updated: July 21, 1988 (W. Fenton)
Updated: March 27, 1990

Lead: EP
Contact: T. Sackmann
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10821: DND Low Level Flights, Route IR-920; DND; U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command (SAC)

BACKGROUND:

The Department of National Defence (DND) in conjunction with the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command, has proposed a series of annual low-level training flights over the next several years. The proposal will involve up to 100 aircraft (B-52's, FB-111's and B1B's) flying at low levels over at least four one-day periods, in each quarter. The proposed route will initiate north of the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, proceed south to the Alberta border into northwestern Saskatchewan, south to the Primrose Lake area and west into CFB, Cold Lake, Alberta.

DOE provided preliminary input to DND at a meeting held in Edmonton in early December, 1985. DND was advised that impacts were likely to be minor if the route avoided key wildlife habitats and communities. Development of a contingency plan for accidents/emergencies and early consultation with GNWT, INAC, the provinces and local communities were also recommended.

The provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, GNWT and INAC were advised of the proposal early in 1986 and have been kept informed since that time. A consultative meeting chaired by DND was held with all government agencies interested in the environmental review in early August. A meeting with government agencies and public interest groups was held in Yellowknife on Dec. 10/86. Environment Canada attended both meetings. Similar meetings with the public were not held in for Alberta and Saskatchewan.

DND requested that SAC complete an Initial Environmental Evaluation for the proposal. Environmental Sciences Ltd. (ESL) completed this work. The IEE was released for review in May, 1987. DOE comments have been provided directly to DND in a coordinated Departmental response on the entire route and through DIAND's Regional Environmental Review Committee (RERC) for NWT portions of the route.

KEY ISSUES:

- Concern over potential noise impacts on wildlife and people (hunters, trappers, fishermen, tourists, etc.).
- Potential conflict with spring and fall bird migration and wilderness values of proposed East Arm National Park (Great Slave Lake).
- DND/SAC failure to consult with provinces and GNWT early in the planning process. Limited opportunity for community/public involvement during review of IEE.
- Contingency planning for emergencies or accidents.
- Need for follow-up to ensure implementation of appropriate mitigation during actual exercises.
- General opposition by some members of the public to military exercises in the NWT and western Canada.

STATUS:

DOE has provided comments on the Draft IEE and Final IEE. The Minister of National Defence announced in June 1989 that the project will proceed with appropriate mitigation. Opposition has been expressed by the Territorial legislature of the NWT, the Dene Nation and affected local communities in the NWT.

The Dene Nation and Hamlet of Snowdrift have indicated their intention to challenge DND's Initial Assessment decision in court. The basis for this challenge has not been confirmed but is expected to relate to the perceived need for a public review Panel due to significant local public concern. DND has not yet announced the anticipated date for the first low level exercise.

FUTURE ACTIONS:

Participate in pre-flight wildlife reconnaissance flights (CWS). Review annual report on mitigation when produced.

Continue to liaise with other review agencies such as DIAND, Alberta Environment, Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Respond to any requests for documentation on DOE's role in the review of the IEE as related to the anticipated court challenge.

Prepared by: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: June 12, 1986
Revised: October 10, 1986
Revised: November 28, 1986
Revised: January 2, 1987
Revised: July 17, 1987
Revised: October 22, 1987
Revised: August 8, 1988
Revised: February 23, 1989 (no change)
Revised: February 23, 1990

Lead: EP
Contact: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-11856 Nanisivik Northern Training Centre; DND

BACKGROUND:

The Department of National Defence wishes to establish a Northern Training Centre on Baffin Island in the vicinity of the Nanisivik lead-zinc mine following cessation of mining activities. The Training Centre would include an 8,800 sq km manoeuvre area, ranges for small arms, grenade, mortar, howitzer, anti-tank rocket and helicopter minigun firing, a field demolitions range, and facilities for housing troops. Several all-season roads would be constructed within the manoeuvre area, although vehicle movement may not necessarily be restricted to roads with prepared surfaces. Planned takeover of the Nanisivik site would follow mine closure between 1996 and 1998.

KEY ISSUES:

It is not certain how much of the mine infrastructure will be decommissioned prior to DND's takeover, nor have the long-term responsibilities for tailings storage facilities been determined. Troop movement and live fire exercises may disturb caribou in portions of the manoeuvre area. Lesser concerns may include management of camp wastes and fuel storage and transfer facilities.

STATUS:

DND has released a draft IEE for the proposed training centre for review by the RERC. An RERC meeting has been tentatively scheduled for early February, at which an overview of the project will be presented by DND representatives. DOE review comments on the draft will be submitted to the RERC Chairman by January 30.

FUTURE ACTION:

Coordinate further input to RERC reviews for this project (subject to resource availability).

Prepared by: Tim Sackmann
Phone: (403) 873-3456
Originated: January 22, 1990

Lead: EP-NWT
Contact: T. Sackmann

PART B

1989 REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT

TABLE 1

1989 CUMULATIVE PROPOSAL REGISTRATION AND PRESCREENING DATA
Referred to the NSCC for L₁ Information or D₁ Decision

L₁ Total

MONTH	I	D	Y	Alberta			Saskatchewan			Manitoba			Month			Year		
				I	D	Y	I	D	Y	I	D	Y	I	D	Y	I	D	Y
Jan.	0	0	0	2	3	5	3	0	3	1	0	1	6	3	9	6	3	9
Feb.	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	3	3	1	0	1	2	4	6	8	7	15
Mar.	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	4	0	4	12	7	19
Apr.	18	0	18	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	21	0	21	33	7	40
May	13	0	13	3	0	3	2	0	2	8	2	10	26	2	28	59	9	68
June	148	1	149	1	1	2	4	0	4	0	0	0	153	2	155	212	11	223
July	5	0	5	3	0	3	3	0	3	3	0	3	14	0	14	226	11	237
Aug.	24	0	24	8	0	8	6	0	6	2	0	2	40	0	40	266	11	277
Sept.	13	0	13	4	2	6	4	0	4	0	0	0	21	2	23	287	13	300
Oct.	16	0	16	7	0	7	3	0	3	0	0	0	26	0	26	313	13	326
Nov.	19	0	19	7	0	7	6	0	6	4	0	4	36	0	36	349	13	362
Dec.	15	0	15	3	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	19	0	19	368	13	381
TOTALS	271	1	272	41	7	48	35	3	38	21	2	23	368	13	381			

TABLE 2

1989 PROPOSAL REGISTRATION DATA GROUPED BY REFERRING AGENCY

REFERRING AGENCY	NUMBER OF PROJECTS REGISTERED		TOTAL
	INFORMATION	DECISION	
Energy Mines & Resources Environment	10		10
- C&P			
- Parks (Western Region)			
- Parks (Prairie & Northern Region)			
- AES			
F.E.A.R.O.			
Fisheries & Oceans	4		4
Inland Waters Directorate			
Indian & Northern Affairs			
- IAIA			
- NA	278	1	279
National Defence	2	1	3
Public Works	3		3
Regional & Industrial Expansion	2		2
Transport			
- CATA	50		50
- MPA			
Atomic Energy Control Board		1	1
Supply & Services Canada	1		1
Canadian National Railway	3		3
Government of NWT			
Alberta Environment	3	4	7
Saskatchewan Environment		2	2
Manitoba Environment		2	2
National Research Council			
Health & Welfare Canada			
COGLA			
Agriculture Canada			
P.F.R.A.			
Western Economic Diversification Office	12	2	14
TOTALS	368	13	381

TABLE 3

1989 PROPOSAL REGISTRATION DATA GROUPED BY LEAD AGENCY

LEAD AGENCY	NUMBER OF REGISTERED PROJECTS TO DATE		TOTAL
	INFORMATION	DECISION	
DFO	- Western Region		
CWS			
AES	- Central Region		
	- Western Region		
IWD	- Western & Northern Region		
CPS	- Prairie and Northern Region		
	- Western Region		
EP	- NWT District	1	272
	- Alberta District	7	48
	- Saskatchewan District	3	38
	- Manitoba District	2	23
CFS			
CORE Secretariat			
TOTALS	368	13	381

TABLE 4

1989 REGISTERED PROPOSALS REFERRED FOR RSCC DECISION

MONTH	LEAD	NUMBER	REGISTRATION	
			PROJECT TITLE	
JANUARY	EP	NW-4462	Crestbrook Industries, Alberta, Alberta Pacific Kraft Pulpmill, Athabasca	
	EP	NW-4463	Alberta Energy Company; CTMP, Pulpmill, Slave Lake	
	EP	NW-4464	Proctor & Gamble; Expansion of a Kraft Pulpmill, Grande Prairie	
FEBRUARY		NIL		
MARCH	EP	NW-970	Anok Uranium mining and milling operation (Dominique-Janine ore deposit), Cluff Lake, Saskatchewan	
	EP	NW-7269	Millar Western Industries - CTMP Pulpmill, Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan	
	EP	NW-7270	Nortek Capital Corporation - CTMP Pulpmill, Nipawin, Saskatchewan	
	EP	NW-4468	OSLO Oil Sands Development, Fort McMurray, Alberta	
APRIL		NIL		
MAY		NIL		
JUNE	EP	NW-4472	DND-Operation Swiftsure, Alberta	
	EP	NW-11596	Athabaska Gold Resources Ltd. and Chevron Minerals Ltd. - Nicholas Lake, NWT.	
JULY		NIL		

TABLE 6 (cont)

1989 REGISTERED PROJECTS REFERRED FOR BSCE DECISION

MONTH	LEAD/SUPPORT	NUMBER	REGISTRATION	
			PROJECT TITLE	
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER	EP	84-4474	Dow Chemical Canada Inc., Ethylene plant, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta	
	EP	84-4475	Gainer's Inc., Rag processing plant, Peicture Butte, Alberta	
	EP	84-2749	DIAED - Sewage treatment lagoon, The Pas Indian Reserve, Manitoba	
	EP	84-2748	Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd. - Kamour Lake Mine, Manitoba and Saskatchewan	
OCTOBER				
NOVEMBER				
DECEMBER				

TABLE 5

1989 PROPOSAL STATUS REPORT REVIEW

INACTIVE PROJECTS

STATUS	LOCATION	REGISTRATION NUMBER	PROPOSAL TITLE	LEAD/SUPPORT	LEAD COORDINATOR	DATE LAST PSR ENTRY
ALTA.	NU-4500-1 NU-4200		Cold Lake Heavy Oil Project CNR Proposed Double Track - Edmonton to B.C. Border	EP/ENR/BC EP/NTC	P. Zaai P. Zaai	30/01/86 30/01/86
	NU-4388 NU-4428 NU-4409		Military Training Centre - Longview* Peace River Site C Milk River Dam*	EP IAD IAD	P. Zaai D. Donald D. Munro	16/01/87 15/01/90
SASK.	NU-7068		Bawn Lake Ore Deposit*	EP/NTC	D. Lawson	28/04/87
MAN.			NIL			
B.W.T.	NU-10349		Polar Gas - Mackenzie Pipeline Proposal*	EP/ENR/BC	G. Packman	22/04/87

* Project/Action Status report provided

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4388: Military Training Centre, Longview, Alberta; DND

BACKGROUND

The Department of National Defence (DND) requires lands for operation of a military training centre associated with CFB Calgary. The present facility located on the Sarcee Indian Reserve has become uneconomical to operate due to new lease arrangements proposed by the Sarcee. Consequently, DND has proposed purchase of land for such a facility near Longview. A 1984 proposal suggested the Nelson Ranch as the favoured alternative site. This was rejected due to considerable local opposition. In August, 1986, a revised proposal was submitted suggesting the O-H Ranch as a new preferred site. The proposal was officially referred to the province of Alberta as the first such project to be jointly reviewed under the Canada-Alberta Agreement on Environmental Impact Assessment.

KEY ISSUES:

- Public consultation required before irrevocable decisions are made.
- Compatibility of military land use with wilderness recreation/agricultural land-uses currently existing in the area.
- Potential impacts on archaeological/historical resources.
- Need to verify predictions made relative to potential impacts on ungulates (wapiti, moose).
- Need for additional details on proposed facilities at the site with specific reference to waste management requirements.
- Potential conflict with moratorium on certain water uses in the Highwood River watershed.
- Transportation route/s require additional review (vehicle type and approval, potential conflict with other users, road upkeep, etc.)
- Influence of winter chinooks on fire hazard and potential for soil erosion (vehicle movement).

STATUS:

The IEE has been reviewed by Environment Canada (DOE) and Alberta Environment. DOE comments have been provided to DND outlining the concerns identified above and indicating that the degree of public concern will likely be significant. Provincial comments will not be formally provided until public consultation has been implemented and the Alberta Cabinet has reviewed the proposal. A consensus was reached with DND on implementation of a public consultation program.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review of the revised IEE will take place after the document becomes available, and further advice will be provided to DND as necessary. DND's public consultation plan will be referred to Alberta Environment when recieved.

Prepared by: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: October 10, 1986
Updated: January 16, 1987

Lead: EP
Contact: Fred Zaal, ADO
Phone: (403) 468-8004

FROM RSCC MINUTES: January 14, 1988: The project is still inactive, however the need for such a facility still exists. DND needs to cooperatively plan with the province to address this requirement. The O-H Ranch was recently sold to local (private) interests.

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4409: Milk River Dam; Alberta; Agriculture Canada (PFRA)

BACKGROUND:

Construction of a dam on the Milk River has been proposed by Alberta Environment. The dam would be 41.5 metres high, 620 metres long and the forebay would encompass 1,853 hectares. The dam would be used as a storage reservoir for irrigation purposes, and would secure Canada's rightful share of water from the Milk River basin. Construction of this \$30 million dam would enable irrigation of an additional 6,000 hectares, and provide a guaranteed water source for domestic and livestock use. The proposed dam site is 4 km downstream from the confluence of the North Milk and Milk Rivers, and about 14 km west of the town of Milk River. The environmentally important and sensitive Milk River Canyon is located 110 km downstream from the reservoir site. No licence would be required under the International River Improvement Act.

KEY ISSUES:

Water quality and accurate measurements of water quantity will be key issues under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, and the 1921 order of the International Joint Commission. The Milk River Valley is also the only location in Canada where many plant, insect, reptile and fish species specifically adapted to an arid ecosystem are known to occur. Impact of the proposed dam on rare or threatened species and the riparian plant community in the Milk River Canyon could also be issues.

STATUS:

Alberta Environment has completed several reports related to this project and is planning additional studies on water quality, biological resources and archaeological sites. Environment Canada reviewed nine reports related to this project and provided comments to Alberta Environment on August 27, 1987.

May 12, 1988 RSCC Meeting: IWD advises that project is INACTIVE.

FUTURE ACTION:

IWD will continue to assess quality and quantity of water in the Milk River at the eastern boundary crossing, and the RSCC will review EIA reports as required.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: January 22, 1986
Updated: July 05, 1986
Updated: November 24, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: January 20, 1988
Updated: May 12, 1988
Updated: January 15, 1990 (no change)

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7068: Dawn Lake Ore Deposit; CAMECO (formerly Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation); Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The ore bodies contain 18.6 million kilograms of uranium. To date, activity has been limited to geological exploration, as more favourable ore bodies are either in production (Key Lake) or are being considered for development (Cigar Lake).

KEY ISSUES:

Potential environmental impacts, including release of radioactive elements and heavy metals, terrain disturbances and disruption of fish and wildlife resources.

STATUS:

The last activity on this project was in May, 1984, when DOE/DFO reviewed baseline environmental data collected by the proponent. The review concentrated on data deficiencies and on making recommendations to Saskatchewan Environment for future work plans. The company's exploration camp has been discomissioned.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review any renewed baseline data collection. An EIS review is not imminent, as development is unlikely to proceed in the near future. This project is INACTIVE.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Originated: October 1, 1985
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 12, 1986
Updated: January 16, 1987
Updated: April 28, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989
Updated: November 6, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10349: Polar Gas; Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Proposal; DIAND/NEB; Polar Gas Ltd.

BACKGROUND:

Polar Gas Ltd. filed an application in June 1984 with the National Energy Board (NEB) and DIAND to construct and operate a large-diameter natural gas pipeline along the Mackenzie Valley from the Mackenzie Delta to Edson, Alberta. Preliminary screening of the application for deficiencies and potential environmental concerns was initiated at that time by DIAND and the NEB. DIAND completed its preliminary screening in August 1985 and recommended that the application not be referred to FEARO for a formal Panel review. This suggestion was dependent upon further consultation with the GNWT to confirm their position on significance of impact and referral/non-referral to FEARO. The recommendation was also dependent upon the assumption that some form of community-based review would be initiated and that Polar Gas would address specific deficiencies. The NEB review is on hold pending confirmation by Polar Gas of a gas supplier and markets to which the product would be transported.

KEY ISSUES:

- GNWT position on significance of input, referral/non-referral to FEARO and form of community based review.
- need for additional details on site specific concerns (eg. potential for terrain disturbance)
- need for clearer identification of linkages of the proposal with gas field development and gas processing facilities.

STATUS:

The National Energy Board received information from Polar Gas in April and additional information in October, 1985 which was intended to address project financing, supplies of gas (e.g. Esso, Gulf, Shell) and potential markets in the United States. However, the company has yet to confirm an actual source of gas (i.e. written agreement with a producer) or an actual market for the gas (i.e. written agreement with a distributor). Until Polar Gas can do this, the NEB is unlikely to initiate a formal review. The GNWT agrees with DIAND that the project not be referred to FEARO for a Panel review. GNWT, nevertheless, wishes to pursue a community-based formal review process. The timing and format for this review is still unresolved. Polar Gas has terminated its community consultation program in the Mackenzie Valley. Further work is not anticipated until economic conditions improve.

FUTURE ACTION:

Timing of future reviews is unclear at this time. DOE, CFS and DFO participation in further IERC reviews, community hearings and/or NEB hearings will take place if and when such actions are required.

PROJECT INACTIVE: June 23, 1987

Prepared by: Warren Fenton

Phone: (403) 468-8013

Originated: January 21, 1986

Updated: November 10, 1986

Updated: November 14, 1987 (no change in project status)

Updated: June 21, 1988 (no change in project status)

Lead:

Contact:

Phone:

EPS-NWT

T. Sackmann

(403) 873-3456

TABLE 6

1989 REGIONAL MINING SUB-COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	DATE ACTION	REQUIRED	INITIATED est.	REVIEWERS actual	COMPLETED	COMMENTS	OTHER

No Sub-Committee Activity in 1989

TABLE 7

1989 REGIONAL DREDGING SUB-COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	DATE ACTION	REQUIRED	INITIATED est.	REVIEWERS actual	COMPLETED	COMMENTS	OTHER

No Sub-Committee Activity in 1989

TABLE 8

1989 REGIONAL HYDROCARBON SUB-COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	DATE ACTION	REQUIRED	INITIATED est.	REVIEWERS actual	COMPLETED	COMMENTS	OTHER
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No Sub-Committee Activity in 1989

TABLE 9

1989 REGIONAL HYDROPOWER SUB-COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	DATE		INITIATED est.	REVIEWERS actual	COMPLETED	COMMENTS	OTHER
	ACTION	REQUIRED					

No Sub-Committee Activity in 1989

TABLE 10

1989 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	DATE ACTION	REQUIRED	INITIATED est.	REVIEWERS actual	COMPLETED	COMMENTS	OTHER

No Sub-Committee Activity in 1989

TABLE 11

1989 REGIONAL TAR SANDS AND HEAVY OILS SUB-COMMITTEE

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	DATE ACTION REQUIRED	INITIATED est.	REVIEWERS actual	COMPLETED	COMMENTS	OTHER
NW-4468-OSLO Project	Review of Various EIA Documents		Committee Members	Ongoing		

TABLE 12

PROPOSALS CLOSED FOR RSCC PURPOSES IN 1989

Projects Closed from RSCC Agenda and Further Review

- 1) NW-2370 Shoal Lake Indian Reserve (I.R.)40*
Proposal Manitoba closed at RSCC meeting 89-1
- 2) NW-2748 Namew Lake Mine
(Manitoba & Saskatchewan) (EP) closed at RSCC meeting 89-5
- 3) NW-4336 Banff Townsite Expansion*
Alberta (CWS) closed at RSCC meeting 89-2
- 4) NW-4339 Mt. Norquay Ski Area Development*
(CPS)
- 5) NW-4412 Blood Indian Reserve Irrigation*
Proposal Alberta (IWD) closed at RSCC meeting 89-2
- 6) NW-4432 Sunshine Village Initial Environmental Evaluation*
(EP)
- 7) NW-4440 DOT Aircraft De-Icing*
Western & Northern Region (EP) closed at RSCC meeting 89-2
- 8) NW-4445 Alberta Newsprint Company Limited; CTMP Newsprint Mill*
Whitecourt closed at RSCC meeting 89-2
- 9) NW-4449 Caroline Area Gas Development Group*
(CAGDG) Alberta (EP)
- 10) NW-4476 Alberta Special Waste Treatment Centre, (EPP)*
- 11) NW-7238 Riverhurst Irrigation
Proposal Saskatchewan (IWD) closed at RSCC meeting 89-1
- 12) NW-7170 Redberry Lake Cottage Development*
Proposal (CWS) closed at RSCC meeting 89-5

Project/Actions Status Report Attached*

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2370: Shoal Lake Indian Reserve (I.R.) 40; Cottage Sub-division Development;
DIAND: Manitoba/Ontario

BACKGROUND:

Shoal Lake I.R. 40 Band proposes to develop a 350 lot cottage sub-division on I.R. land; when near the intake for the City of Winnipeg drinking water supply. I.R. 40 straddles the Manitoba/Ontario border. The project was referred to FEARO by DIAND in March, 1980; FEARO Panel was established. Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was submitted to the FEARO Panel by DIAND in June, 1984. DOE/DFO reviewed the EIS and submitted a deficiency statement to the FEARO Panel in August, 1984. Indian Affairs identified deficiencies and submitted a response to the FEARO Panel in late 1984. DOE is providing advice to Indian Affairs with respect to sewage and solid waste management on I.R. 40 and is monitoring the activities of the interested parties. Action by the FEARO Panel is in abeyance pending results of four-party discussions (federal and provincial governments, City of Winnipeg and Shoal Lake I.R. 40 Band) of possible "buy out" of Indian development rights on I.R. 40. DOE/DFO has prepared a draft brief, for submission to the FEARO Panel, if public hearings are to be held.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential threat to Shoal Lake water quality and to fisheries resources, to City of Winnipeg drinking water supply.

STATUS:

FEARO Panel action is "on hold" pending conclusion of the four-party negotiations. Meetings have recently been held between the City of Winnipeg, Province and the Band. All parties appear to agree that negotiations must conclude by summer of 1989, or be abandoned.

FUTURE ACTION:

Continue to monitor progress of negotiations towards possible "buy out". Continue to provide advice to DIAND on sewage and solid waste management on Shoal Lake I.R. 40.

Prepared by: H.C.R. Gavin
Phone: (403) 468-8014
Originated: December 9, 1985
Updated: December 9, 1985
Prepared by: B.W. Briscoe
Updated: July 18, 1986
Updated: February 2, 1987 (no change)
Updated: August 4, 1987

Lead: EP
Contact: B.W. Briscoe
Phone: (204) 949-4811

PROJECT ACTION/ STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4336: Banff Townsite Expansion; DOE (Parks); Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The proposal calls for expansion of commercial and/or residential facilities outside the present boundary of Banff townsite in Banff National Park. Present Parks Canada policy prohibits commercial/recreational development outside of Banff townsite. However, there is considerable pressure for space within the townsite, resulting in pressure for expansion outside the present town limits.

KEY ISSUES:

Expansion of the townsite may further destroy the limited montane zone which provides essential habitat for overwintering large mammals and other wildlife. Attention is being focused on the area between the town and the traffic circle, where re-development of the land occupied by the old hotels and residences is possible. This area is important for overwintering animals and is already being encroached upon by the widening of the Trans-Canada Highway.

STATUS:

An Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) was prepared by Parks Canada and subsequently reviewed by the RSCC. A final IEE was prepared and public meetings held. The expansion plans and IEE were generally well received at the public meetings.

FUTURE ACTION:

No further action by the RSCC is required. Once the RSCC has received a copy of the final IEE for information purposes, the project can be closed.

Prepared by: R. Edwards
Phone: (403) 420-2525
Originated: September 27, 1985
Updated: December 18, 1985
Updated: November 19, 1986 (R. Prach)
Updated: October 9, 1987 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: January 11, 1988
Updated: February 28, 1989

Lead: CWS
Contact: P. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4339: Mt. Norquay Ski Area Development; DOE (Parks); Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The operator of the Mt. Norquay ski facility, Banff Lifts Ltd., wishes to expand the existing facilities for recreational skiing at the Mt. Norquay facility in Banff National Park. A development plan document has been submitted to the Canadian Parks Service (CPS) which provided a basis for an IEE, prepared by CPS, for the Mt. Norquay Ski Area 1988 Development Plan.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential impact of expansion of the ski facility on significant wildlife habitat and wildlife utilization of the area; wastewater treatment system which is currently inadequate for present needs.

STATUS:

The IEE was reviewed and comments provided to CPS in time for them to be made available at public meetings held in early November.

FUTURE ACTION:

No further RSCC involvement is required. This project can be closed.

Prepared by: R. Edwards
Phone: (403) 420-2525
Originated: September 18, 1985
Updated: December 18, 1985
Updated: November 18, 1986 (R. Prach)
Updated: October 9, 1987 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: January 1, 1988 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: May 18, 1988 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: August 17, 1988 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: November 14, 1988 (P. Boothroyd)

Lead: CWS
Contact: P. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4412: Blood Indian Reserve Irrigation Proposal; Alberta; Indian Affairs, PFRA;
Blood Indian Band

BACKGROUND:

In the early 1980s, an irrigation feasibility study by the Blood Indian Tripartite TE Committee (Alberta, DIAND, Blood Indian Band) recommended irrigation of 25,000 acres on the Big Lease area of the Blood Indian Reserve. Subsequent reviews by the Committee, Intergroup Consultants, and DOE concluded the project was technically and economically feasible. DOE found the EIA to be deficient with regard to a number of key issues related to irrigation, and consequently a revised IEE was prepared by PFRA in early 1988.

KEY ISSUES:

Wind erosion of topsoil, a major problem in this region, would be reduced. Waterfowl habitat could be developed at suitable sites within the project boundaries, possible in association with programs by Ducks Unlimited or the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

STATUS:

There is an agreement to proceed with the project, however, it has been scaled-down. It is expected that the project will be extended over a 12-year period. Design of mitigation measure to reduce canal slumping has continued. Construction is expected to begin during the summer 1990. Monitoring of the program continues through and Environment Advisory Committee with representation from Alberta Agriculture and Environment, the Blood Tribe, PFRA and the Blood Indian Advisory Committee.

FUTURE ACTION:

The RSCC should continue to track this project and provide advice to the Tripartite Committee or its members as required. CWS should encourage and promote waterfowl habitat development as opportunities arise.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: November 26, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: January 20, 1988
Updated: November 17, 1988
Updated: January 8, 1990

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4432: Sunshine Village Initial Environmental Evaluation

BACKGROUND:

Canadian Parks Service reviewed the above document, and requested comments and advice from the RSCC - particularly on the discussion of the hydrology and watershed. Parks would prepare the final critique and conclusions about the accuracy, significance and acceptability of the project description and impacts of the proposed project.

KEY ISSUES:

Key issues as per Parks' request - the review focused on water and wastewater management.

STATUS:

Review comments were provided to Parks in May, 1988. Subsequent to transmittal of the identified concerns by Parks to the proponent, a meeting was held between EP and Sunshine Village personnel during which the concerns were further elucidated. In light of the public opposition the owner/operator withdrew the proposal.

FUTURE ACTION:

The owner/operator is expected to propose a revised development plan. Close file.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: November 4, 1988
Updated: February 5, 1990

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4440: Aircraft De-icing at Major Airports, DOT

BACKGROUND:

Glycol based fluids are used to de-ice aircraft. A portion of the fluids spill onto the runways and enter airport stormwater collection systems. High levels of glycol and biochemical oxygen demand have been found in stormwater during de-icing season. Transport Canada has not implemented measures to control glycol pollution.

KEY ISSUES:

Water quality and waste disposal.

STATUS:

DOT prepared an IEE on the use of glycol based fluids at eight major federal airports including Calgary, Winnipeg and Regina. The RSCC reviewed the IEE and comments were sent to DOT.

FUTURE ACTION:

No future action required. Suggest the project be closed.

Prepared by: Kath Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8016
Originated: January 7, 1988
Updated: February 15, 1989

Lead: EP (EQB)
Contact: Kath Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8016

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4445: Alberta Newsprint Company Limited (ANC); Newsprint (CTMP) Mill, 8 km upstream of Whitecourt on the Athabasca River

BACKGROUND:

A newsprint mill with an annual capacity of 220,000 metric tons, capital cost \$360 million, 200 employees in the plant and an additional 175 jobs in the woodlands operation. There are plans for doubling the capacity (and employment).

KEY ISSUES:

Effluent treatment and instream quality particularly during low flows in winter (7 Q10), cumulative effects with Kraft mill (Champion) upstream and CTMP mill (Millar) just downstream. Impact of railroad crossing of Athabasca River. Local weather, ice fog and fog creation in proximity to Whitecourt airport and the Town of Whitecourt. Wildlife impact along river corridor and in woodlands operations, particularly if woodland caribou affected. Downstream water user guarantees and involvement.

STATUS:

The EIA and supplemental information was completed July, 1988. The permit to construct was issued identified in the review process.

FUTURE ACTION:

Close file.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: November 4, 1988

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4449: Caroline Area Gas Development Group (CAGDG), Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The CAGDG is a 16 member group represented by Shell Canada. They plan to process natural gas liquids, sulphur and gas from the Caroline Swan Hills field in the Rocky Mountain House to Sundre area. The proposal includes expansions of the Ram River and Strachan gas plants, a new plant, 20 new wells, gathering and transmission pipelines, transmission lines and a rail line for sulphur transport. Gas production of 300 MSCF/D is anticipated; reserve is 30 to 35% H²S. The capital cost is expected to be in the order of \$500 million.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential issues include air quality, acid deposition, water quality, fisheries, forestry, land use, development alternatives, health and safety, effects on population changes or community services and roads.

Key federal interest in the project relate to the ancillary rail line from the plant to transport the anticipated volume of 2,700 tonnes/day of sulphur.

STATUS:

The proponent has withdrawn the rail line component from the project proposal. Remaining federal interest lies under the NWPA.

FUTURE ACTION:

Close file.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: November 4, 1988
Updated: November 29, 1988

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4476: Alberta Special Waste Treatment Centre; Environmental Protection Plan;
Swan Hills, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The Alberta Special Waste Management Corporation and Chem Security prepared Environmental Protection Plans in 1985 and 1987. Another EPP was prepared in June of 1989 and submitted to Alberta Environment for review. This EPP outlined environmental protection activities that have been, and will be, carried out. It addresses the current state of operations and also covers expansion plans for its incineration capabilities. Application for a permit for expansion will be dealt with separately after the review of the EPP. The EPP is intended to be updated as environmental protection measures are implemented or expanded.

KEY ISSUES:

Waste processes, contingency and emergency action plans, effects of discharges from site on groundwater, effects on wildlife, site closure and environmental mitigation plans, baseline air, water quality and wildlife monitoring.

STATUS:

Environment Canada and Fisheries and Oceans completed their review of the EPP in August, 1989 and comments were sent to Alberta Environment.

FUTURE ACTION:

No future action required; suggest the project file be closed.

Prepared by: Pauline Erickson
Phone: (403) 468-8005
Originated: February 8, 1990

Lead:	EP (ADO)
Contact:	Pauline Erickson
Phone:	(403) 468-8005

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7170: Redberry Lake Cottage Development Proposal; Redberry Development Corporation; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The water and islands of Redberry Lake, located 100 km northwest of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, constitute a Migratory Bird Sanctuary. The lake is surrounded by a narrow zone of aspen parkland. Larger blocks of natural habitat in the northeast and southwest corners are provincial crown land designated as "critical and important wildlife habitat." Pelican Island within the Sanctuary supports a large colony of (threatened) white pelicans (240 pairs) and double-crested cormorants (53 pairs). Forty piping plovers (endangered) were counted along the shoreline in 1984. All told, the lake and surrounding area supports at least 150 species of birds: ducks including white-winged scoters, gulls, terns, shorebirds and songbirds.

In 1985, the Redberry Development Corporation announced their intention to build a 400 lot cottage subdivision with a mobile home park, campground, hotel and marina on approximately 160 acres bordering the southwest portion of the lake.

KEY ISSUES

The potential threat to birds and their habitat posed by the development aroused widespread concern. The Canadian Wildlife Service and other government agencies, particularly the Saskatchewan Department of Parks and Renewable Resources, as well as other conservation oriented organizations; World Wildlife Fund, Saskatchewan Natural History Society, Saskatoon Natural History Society, Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation; expressed concern.

STATUS

The Canadian Wildlife Service and the Saskatchewan Wildlife Branch conducted a comprehensive inventory of the wildlife and wildlife habitat of the Redberry Lake Complex. A joint report presented those data complete with a set of management recommendations for maintaining the wildlife values of Redberry Lake. The development proposal was rejected by the Director of Community Planning based on the argument that the proposed development was incompatible with the wildlife values of the area. That decision was upheld by the Development Appeal Board pending the results of an environmental impact statement. No EIS has been prepared yet even though the Minister of Saskatchewan Environment is adamant that one is required.

The municipal government has entered into a management planning program for Redberry Lake which includes representation by Canadian Wildlife Service (Phil Taylor, CWS, Saskatoon). The planning group is to evaluate all potential land uses, particularly in the area of tourism and related development opportunities, taking into account associated socio-economic and wildlife resource management concerns. Members of the group have provided input into a draft planning document being prepared by a consultant. The final report will include a recommended planning framework by which development proposals would be judged for acceptability. Public meetings are to be held on the recommended planning framework after the consultant's report has been finalized. These meetings would take place in the early part of the new year.

FUTURE ACTION

At this point, it is not known how and when the RSCC may become more involved with this project. It is possible that the planning framework, once approved, could be subjected to a review through the provincial assessment and review process. In this case, a request for federal input into the review could be expected.

Prepared by: R.W. Prach
Phone: (403) 420-2525
Originated: December 12, 1986
Updated: December 2, 1987 (P.N. Boothroyd)
Updated: November 14, 1988

Lead: CWS
Contact: P.N. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PART C
RSCC AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES
1989 MEMBERSHIP

REGIONAL SCREENING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE WESTERN AND NORTHERN REGION

<u>Members</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Location</u>
Dr. N. Tywoniuk, Chairman	RDGO	Edmonton
Dr. R. McV. Clarke	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. W.D. Hume (Western Region)	AES	Edmonton
Mr. D.G. Shaefer (Central Region)	AES	Winnipeg
Dr. S. Zoltai	CFS	Edmonton
Dr. P. Addison - Alternate	CFS	Edmonton
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina
Mr. D. Gregor - Alternate	IWD	Regina
Mr. G. McKeating	CWS	Edmonton
Mr. P. Boothroyd - Alternate	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. D. Kerfoot (Prairie & Northern Region)	CPS	Winnipeg
Mr. R.D. Wickstrom - Alternate	CPS	Winnipeg
Dr. B. Leeson (Western Region)	CPS	Calgary
<u>Secretariat</u>		
Ms. D. Lorieau	EP	Edmonton

RSCC REGIONAL SUB-COMMITTEES WESTERN AND NORTHERN REGION

1. Regional Mining Sub-Committee

<u>Members</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mr. W. Fenton, A/Co-Chairman	EP (N 60)	Edmonton
Mr. R.F. Hopkinson, Co-Chairman	*AES	
	(N&S 60)(E 110)	Regina
Mr. B. Thomson	*AES	
	(N&S 60)(W 110)	Edmonton
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS (N&S 60)	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Donald/D. Munro	IWD (S 60)	Regina
Mr. B. Fallis	DFO (N&S 60)	Winnipeg
Dr. M.J. Apps	CFS (N&S 60)	Edmonton

- * AES Western/Central Regional division essentially 110 longitude;
RMC Co-Chairman S of 60 reviews for AES, N & S of 60 (E of 100)

2. Regional Dredging Sub-Committee

<u>Members</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mr. P.N. Boothroyd, Chairman	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. J.N. Stein	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. J. Harrison	EP (Sask. Projects)	Regina
Mr. D. Donald/D. Munro	IWD	Regina

3. Regional Transportation Sub-Committee

<u>Members</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mr. S. Zoltai, Chairman	CFS	Edmonton
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS	Winnipeg
Ms. A.M. Ault Brakel - Alternate	EP	Edmonton
Mr. J. Harrison - Alternate	EP (Sask. Projects)	Regina
Mr. M.D. Drews - Alternate	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Atkinson - Alternate	AES (Man. Projects)	Winnipeg
Mr. G.A. McKinnon	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Donald/D. Munro	IWD	Regina
Mr. J.L. Fowler - Alternate	IWD	Yellowknife

4. Regional Hydropower Sub-Committee

<u>Members</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mr. D. Donald/D. Munro, Chairmen	IWD	Regina
Mr. Bill Bond	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. J. Harrison	EP (Sask. Projects)	Regina
Mr. M.D. Drews	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Yeo	CPS	Calgary

5. Regional Hydrocarbon Sub-Committee

<u>Members</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mr. P. Boothroyd, Chairman	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. M. Lawrence	DFO	Winnipeg
Dr. S. Zoltai	CFS	Edmonton
Mr. D. Woo	EP	Edmonton
Mr. M.N. Parker	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Atkinson	AES	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Donald/D. Munro	IWD	Regina

6. Regional Tar Sands and Heavy Oils Sub-Committee

<u>Members</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mr. V. Marwaha, Chairman	EP	Edmonton
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. R.F. Hopkinson	AES	Regina
Mr. B. Thomson	AES	Edmonton
Mr. W.D. Hume (Alternate)	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Bond	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Donald/D. Munro	IWD	Regina

7. Ad Hoc Sub-Committee - Shoal Lake - Disbanded March 16, 1989

8. Forestry (Pulp and Paper) Sub-Committee

<u>Members</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mr. D. Woo	EP	Edmonton
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS	Winnipeg
Dr. S. Zoltai	CFS	Edmonton
Mr. R. Hopkinson	AES	Regina
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina
Mr. G. Hopky	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. R. Wickstrom	CPS	Winnipeg
Mr. P. Kocuiba	AES	Edmonton